

DACRYOMYCETACEAE

Dacryomyces minor Pk.—On old wood at Orient; determined by Dr. Lloyd, who says, "I refer it to the above with doubt, but it appears to answer the description. It is a small (1 mm.) cushion shape, orange-yellow gelatinous plant, not changing much in drying. If consistently referred, its recent reference to *Dacryomyces deliquescens* is an error. It differs as noted above. But the structure is most puzzling and I think it is no *Dacryomyces*. The hymenial tissue is made up of branched septate hyphae (?) filled with granular matter septate and easily disarticulated into cylindrical hyaline guttulate spores (?). The sections have all the appearance of *Dacryomyces* spores. I find no basidia, although the forked hyphae (?) have much the appearance of *Dacryomyces* basidia."

THELEPHORACEAE

Peniophora laevigata Fr.—Bark of red cedar, *Juniperus virginiana* at Orient; determined by Dr. E. A. Burt, who says, "your specimen affords the first station for this species in the United States: I received a gathering several years ago from Canada."

Stereum albobadium (Schw.) Fr.—Old stems of *Brassica oleracea gemmifera* (Brussels sprouts), "Orient, R. Latham (in Mo. Bot. Gard. Herb., 17267)," reported by Dr. Burt in Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. 7: 218. Apr.—Sept. 1920.

HYDNACEAE

Hydnum friabile Fr.—On earth in dry woods, Cutchogue; determined by Dr. Lloyd and reported in Mycol Notes 65: 1077. Nov. 1920. A species similar to *Hydnum pulcherrimum* B. & C. (*H. septentrionale* Fr.)

(To be Continued.)

SHORTER NOTES

AN INTENSIVE LOCAL STUDY IN RHODE ISLAND

Mr. Albert E. Lownes, of Providence, R. I., who has recently become a member of the Torrey Club, has done some good work near home. In a square mile of terrain, about four miles from Providence, "containing woods, swamps, fields, a river and some small cliffs," he found during the last spring and summer many plants of more than usual interest, including eleven species of *Orchidaceae*. Among these are numbered *Habenaria bracteata* (Willd.) R. Br. and *H. hyperborea* (L.) R. Br. The latter is new to Rhode Island and the discovery extends its New England range far to the south-eastward.

Mr. Lownes had also the opportunity, which he improved, of observing critically a large number of plants of a hybrid *Spiranthes* which appears to be *S. cernua* \times *gracilis*. Oakes Ames has commented on this hybrid in *Rhodora* for April, 1921.

These observations of Mr. Lownes have been made just beyond the limits of our Local Flora, but they are of interest to us not only for their particular values but as evidences of what may be done by intensive study of a small area.—H. M. DENSLOW.

RUDIMENTARY SPORANGIA ON THE ROYAL FERN

An examination of many plants of the royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*, in late May, 1922, disclosed what seemed to be a rather general tendency for all the fronds to be fertile. On over one third of the plants found some of the sterile fronds had rudimentary sporangia on the margins of the upper pinnae. Sometimes only a few such sporangia were found on the two or three upper pinnules, or the upper pinnules would be contracted and covered with these sporangia, while other plants had as many as six pairs of pinnae—over one third of the entire frond—covered with them. These sporangia were about one third the size of the ordinary fertile ones. All stages were noted from thickened, tooth-like projections at the ends of veinlets to perfectly formed small sporangia. Many of the smaller clumps of the fern, apparently young ones, had no fertile leaves, but some of these had a few leaves with rudimentary sporangia. On about one hundred plants examined, with over a thousand fronds, there were less than two hundred fertile leaves and a somewhat larger number with rudimentary sporangia. A month later the same and other plants were examined. At that time all the fertile fronds had their sporangia open and the fertile pinnae were withered or falling. The rudimentary sporangia, however, were many of them green, others were discolored and softened in decay while a very few—a small fraction of one percent—had opened normally. At this time many new fronds were expanding none of which showed any trace of sporangia. Later in the season plants were examined from time to time without finding sporangia on any of the fronds.—G. T. HASTINGS.